

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Marianne HICKEY et al.

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For: ENHANCEMENT OF COMMUNICATION CAPABILITIES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner For Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3, 4, 5, 8, 9 and 10 as follows:

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the interfacing handler sends content from the content server to the at least one second device according to authorisation information specified by the user.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the content server provides content in multiple media types and the at least one second is capable of handling one or more media types not handled by the first device.

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the interfacing handler is a browser arranged to interpret pages with markup tags provided by the content server.

8. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the first device passes on the joining information using a short-range communication link.

9. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the or each second device is named upon joining the session with a name that is known to both the user and the interfacing handler.

10. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the user can communicate with at least one second device via the first device and the interfacing handler.

REMARKS

The above-referenced application is amended to delete the multiple dependencies of claims 3, 4, 5, 8, 9 and 10 and avoid the multiple dependent claim filing fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "Marked-Up Version Showing Changes".

Respectfully submitted,

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CLAIMS

1. A method of enhancing communication between a user using a first device and a content server with which the user is interacting through an interfacing handler, wherein:
 - the communication is managed as a session having one or more participants with the user, via the first device, being an initial participant to the session;
 - the user, using the first device, passes on session joining information to at least one second device;
 - the at least one second device uses the joining information to join the session; and
 - the interfacing handler sends content and/or content references from the content server to the participants in the session.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the devices register their communication capabilities with the session and the interfacing handler sends content and/or content references from the content server to the devices taking account of their registered capabilities.
3. A method according to claim 1 [or claim 2], wherein the interfacing handler sends content from the content server to the at least one second device according to authorisation information specified by the user.
4. A method according to [any one of the preceding claims], *claim 1* wherein the content server provides content in multiple media types and the at least one second is capable of handling one or more media types not handled by the first device.
5. A method according to [any one of the preceding claims], *claim 1* wherein the interfacing handler is a browser arranged to interpret pages with markup tags provided by the content server.
6. A method according to claim 5, wherein the first device is a voice communication device and the interfacing handler is a multimodal browser capable of handling voice markup pages provided by the content server.

7. A method according to claim 6, wherein the first device is a cellular phone.

8. A method according to [any one of the preceding claims,] wherein the first device passes
5 on the joining information using a short-range communication link.

9. A method according to [any one of the preceding claims,] wherein the or each second
device is named upon joining the session with a name that is known to both the user and
the interfacing handler.

10 10. A method according to [any one of the preceding claims,] wherein the user can
communicate with at least one second device via the first device and the interfacing
handler.

15 11. A user communication device comprising:

- means for setting up a communications session with an interfacing handler through
which the user device can receive content from a content server;
- means for assembling session joining data for enabling a further device to join the
communication session by that device passing the session joining data to the
20 interfacing handler; and
- means for sending the session joining information to a said further device
independently of the interfacing handler.

12. A device according to claim 11, wherein said means for sending the session joining
25 information is a short-range communication subsystem.

13. A device according to claim 11, wherein said means for assembling session joining
data comprises means for receiving a session identifier from the interfacing handler.

30 14. A peripheral device comprising:

- peripheral functionality;
- a short-range communications subsystem for receiving session joining data over a